

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Florida
COUNTY:	Leon
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME					
COMMON: First Presbyterian Church 8 LE 208					
AND/OR HISTORIC: NR listed 9/9/1974					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER: 102 N. Adams Street					
CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Second		
STATE Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Leon	CCODE 073		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME: First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee, Inc.					
STREET AND NUMBER: A Non-Profit Florida Corporation P. O. Box 566					
CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee			STATE: Florida	CODE 12	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Leon County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER: South Monroe Street					
CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee			STATE: Florida	CODE 12	
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey					
DATE OF SURVEY: after 1966 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress					
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington					
CITY OR TOWN: Washington			STATE: D.C.	CODE 11	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida	COUNTY: Leon	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee was first organized in 1832 although construction on the building was not complete until 1838. This 1838 structure is, with some alterations, the same building which exists in good condition today. Timber used in the original structure was heart pine, pews were mahogany and the roof woodwork was mortised and pinned.

The building, as it presently exists, has an extended west end and a choir and organ loft has been added. In 1892 the two rows of sash windows in the north and south walls were replaced with "Gothic" pointed arched sash windows with diamond patterned muntins set into rectangular frames. On the interior these windows transcend both first floor and gallery. Also in 1892, the original mahogany box pews were removed and golden oak pews and pulpit were put in, only to have a modified type of box pew put back in 1932. At some time between 1892 and 1932 the steeple was removed to be replaced in 1932 with the original bell in place. Both the extension of the east wall and the addition of the choir loft were supervised by a local architect.

The church is classical in design with a large prominent east portico carried on four nearly colossal Doric columns, a plain entablature and cornice and pediment with clapboarded tympanum. The steeple is a three part composition topped with a slender spire. There is a clock face on each of the four sides of the second section and a pointed-arched louvered vent on each side of the third section where there is also a small urn on each corner. The main entrance to the church consists of double wooden doors with an equilaterally arched transom above. A series of pilasters define panels on the back wall of the portico. In recent years as the level of the street has been lowered with successive paving and widening, the stair to the entrance has been changed and a wrought iron railing added.

The plan of the church is similar to the plan of Old North with two longitudinal aisles and three groups of pews. Galleries extend across the top of the north and south elevations and are carried on hand hewn Doric columns. The pews are modified box type, with no doors, and are not original.

The building occupies a prominent position in downtown Tallahassee, facing on a major thoroughfare. It is well maintained and in excellent condition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1838

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee is one of the oldest buildings in the State capital and the only church still standing which dates from Territorial days. As the original house of Presbyterian worship, it has been a focal point of Florida history for 150 years, the ties between Presbyterianism and Florida government being symbolized by the appointment of Reverend Henry White, a Presbyterian minister, as Chaplain to the Legislative Council in 1826. With the exception of certain alterations, the building remains as originally constructed, serving Tallahassee as a distinctive architectural landmark as well as a link with the origins and growth of the State.

With the grant of a charter to Tallahassee in November, 1824, after the city's designation by Governor DuVal as the territorial capital, settlers and officials began flocking to the area. The servicing of the religious needs of the new inhabitants was a primary concern of the various established denominations. The Methodists and the Episcopalians were the first to establish churches in 1827 and 1829, respectively. Between 1827 and 1831, the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church assigned missionaries to north Florida. In 1823, the Reverend Joseph Styles, an active Presbyterian evangelist, arrived in Tallahassee with a committee from the Georgia Presbytery to minister to the growing Presbyterian community. On November 4, 1832, after a "protracted meeting," the community voted to organize a church composed of two Ruling Elders and sixteen members. The new church was placed under the temporary care of Hopewell Presbytery of Darien, Georgia, and on February 16, 1833 it was incorporated by act of the Florida Legislative Council.

Subscriptions for a permanent church building were begun almost immediately, but not until June, 1835 were bids asked for construction. The lot selected was one of four designated by the Legislative Council along Park Avenue (then McCarthy Street) for church use. The building was completed in three years, all brick being made in a kiln belonging to Ruling Elder R. A. Shine. The total cost was \$13,370.60, of which the

(con't.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

LE208

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries) 8. Significance

-2-

building, pews and gallery cost \$10,253.60, the porch and steeple \$1,600 and the lots, blinds, pulpit lamps and accessories \$1,517. Financing was by the sale of pews, 40 of 44 being sold for a total income of \$12,500.00. On May 13, 1838, the First Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee was dedicated. The Floridian for May 5 of that year noted that "worshippers will by divine permission worship on Sunday the 13th. On this day the pews will be free and citizens invited to attend."

From its dedication to the present, the First Presbyterian Church has been associated with the history of Florida's capital city. As the city of Tallahassee prepares to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of its founding as Florida's territorial capital in 1824, the First Presbyterian Church stands on its original site as a visible reminder of the beginnings of the city and state.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Attached Sheet

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N30° 26' 32"	W84° 16' 57"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist		
ORGANIZATION Div. of Archives, History & Records Management	DATE Jan., 1974	
STREET AND NUMBER: Department of State, The Capitol		
CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee	STATE Florida	CODE 12

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name _____

Title Historic Preservation Officer

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

LE208

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries) 9. Bibliography

"An Historical Sketch of the First Presbyterian Church,"
pamphlet, n.p., n.d.

"Brief Sketches of Ministers Serving the First Presbyterian
Church," Ms. of Church History, Presbyterian Historical
Foundation, Montreat, N.C.

Florida Sentinel (Tallahassee). 1841-61.

Florida Watchman & Tallahassee Literary Gazette. 1836-39.

Floridian (Tallahassee). 1831-48.

Floridian & Journal. 1849-61.

Groene, Bertram. "Religion Comes to Tallahassee," Antebellum
Tallahassee, Ch. 11, Tallahassee: Florida Heritage
Foundation, 1971, pp. 119-131.

Hoyt, The Rev. Dr. Nathan. "A Religious Revival in Tallahassee
in 1843," Florida Historical Quarterly, XXXII, April 1954,
p. 288.

McCord, Mrs. Guyte P., Sr. "History of the First Presbyterian
Church," Unpublished Ms.

McIlwain, Wm. The Early Planting of Presbyterianism in West
Florida. Pensacola: Mays Printing Co., 1926.

Tallahassee Star. 1839-40.

Williams, Arthur. "Historical Sketch of the Presbyterian
Church in Tallahassee," 1924. (Mimeographed.)

Leon

LE208



STATE OF FLORIDA
Department of State
THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE 32304

~~RICHARD DICKSON STONE~~
SECRETARY OF STATE
Dorothy W. Glisson

ROBERT WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF ARCHIVES, HISTORY, AND
RECORDS MANAGEMENT

November 22, 1974

P.C. Enniss, Pastor
First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee, Inc.
P.O. Box 566
Tallahassee, Florida

REF: First Presbyterian Church

Dear Mr. Enniss:

It is a pleasure to advise you that the referenced property has been officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places and to enclose a certificate of formal notification of the recognition given to this historic site.

With every good wish and warm regards.

Sincerely,

Robert Williams
State Historic Preservation
Officer

RW:N jma

Enclosure

56

LE208

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE FLORIDA

Date Entered SEP 9 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Leiman House	Tampa Hillsborough County
(First Presbyterian Church)	Tallahassee Leon County
Quincy Library	Quincy Gadsden County

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

Also Notified

Hon. John J. Gurney
Hon. Lawton Mainor Chiles, Jr.
Hon. C. W. (Bill) Young
Hon. Don Fuqua

**SEE SITE FILE STAFF FOR
ORIGINAL PHOTO(S) OR MAP(S)**

1. Ybor City Historic District
Hillsborough County - Ybor City
2. Sanibel Lighthouse and Keeper's Quarters
Lee County - Sanibel Island
3. Leiman House
Hillsborough County - Tampa
4. Safford House
Pinellas County - Tarpon Springs
5. Tampa City Hall
Hillsborough County - Tampa
6. Old School House
Hillsborough County - Tampa
7. Paul T. Ward House
Hillsborough County - Tampa
8. William Wagner Homestead
Dade County - Miami
9. Halissee Hall
Dade County - Miami
10. Gesu Church
Dade County - Miami
11. Quincy Library
Gadsden County - Quincy
12. Newnansville Town Site
Alachua County - Alachua
13. Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Depot
Collier County - Naples
14. Julee Cottage
Escambia County - Pensacola
15. First Presbyterian Church
Leon County - Tallahassee

LE208

Dorothy W. Glisson
~~RICHARD (DICK) STONE~~
SECRETARY OF STATE

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Dean Kane

FROM: Rodney Little

SUBJECT: National Register News Releases

Date: 9/18/74

Please prepare news releases for recently entered National Register nominations as listed below. We have enclosed a copy of nomination form for each which may be of some use; please return them when you are finished. Thank you.

El Centro Espanol of West Tampa
Hillsborough County

Levick House
Hillsborough County
Ybor City Historic District
Hillsborough County

Stovall House
Hillsborough County

Leiman House
Hillsborough County

First Presbyterian Church
Leon County

Quincy Library
Gadsden County

El Jardin
Dade County



LE208

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)	
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC		
First Presbyterian Church			
2. LOCATION		COUNTY	TOWN
STATE		Leon	Tallahassee
Florida			
STREET AND NUMBER			
102 N. Adams Street			
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
PHOTO CREDIT		Fall, 1973	Div. of Archives, History and Records Management
Mark DeHaney			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

Southeast corner showing main elevation

LE208



LE208

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)	
COMMON			
First Presbyterian Church			
2. LOCATION			
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN	
Florida	Leon	Tallahassee	
STREET AND NUMBER			
102 N. Adams Street			
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		NEGATIVE FILED AT	
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	Div. of Archives, History and Records Management	
Mark DeHaney	Fall, 1973		
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

Main facade--east elevation

12



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

LE208

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME

COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
First Presbyterian Church		

2. LOCATION

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Florida	Leon	Tallahassee

STREET AND NUMBER

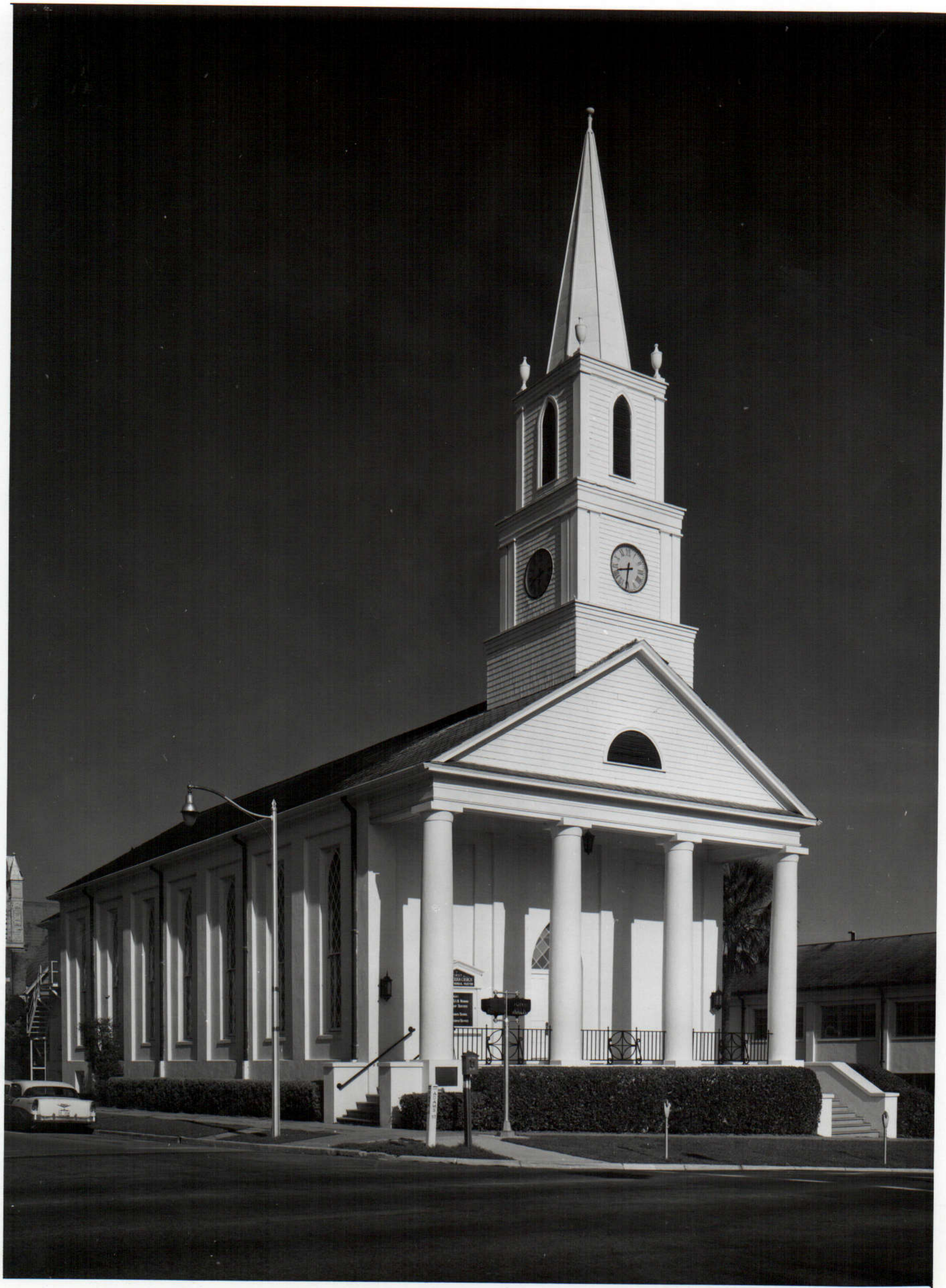
102 N. Adams Street

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
USGS Tallahassee Quad.	1970	1:24000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.

8



1st. Presbyterian
Tallahassee
E & S. etc.

Fla 37-Tala H
49914

1. Park Avenue Historic District
2. Tallahassee, Florida
3. Unknown
4. Unknown
5. Florida Division of Archives, History
and Records Management
6. First Presbyterian Church, East & South
Facades, 102 N. Adams Street
7. Photo No. 10

Lx 208



1st Presb. Church

Fla-377ala 7-2

E. v. N. election

Reproduced from the collections of the Library of Congress

FLORIDA MASTER
SITE FILE

FDA/IRM 802==

Site No. 81e208 1009==
Site Name First Presbyterian Church 830==

Other Name(s) for Site _____
830==

Other Nos. for Site _____ 906==

Type of Site Building 832==

Location of Site:
County Leon 808==

Instructions for locating site (or address) 102 N. Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida
813==

Ownership:

Owner of Site: Name First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee, Inc., A Non-Profit Florida Corporation 902==
Address P. O. Box 566, Tallahassee, Florida 32302 903==

Occupant, Tenant or Manager:
Name _____ 904==
Address _____ 905==

Form Prepared By:

Reporter (or local contact):
Name Spencer, Dr. William 816==
Address 1037 Betton Road
Tallahassee, Florida 817==

Recorder:
Name & Title Greer, Diane, Historic Sites Specialist 818==
Address Div. of Archives, History & Records Mgt. 819==
Department of State, The Capitol

Date of Site Survey 1/74 Tallahassee, Florida 820==

Previous Survey(s), Excavation(s) or Collection(s) (Enter title of survey, date, whether Federal, State, County or Local, Location of Survey Report(s) and Material's Collected).

HABS

After 1966

Federal

Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.

839==

Photographic Record Numbers _____

860==

LE208

Township	Range	Section	1/4 Sec.	1/4 1/4 Sec.	1/4 1/4 1/4 Sec.
1N	1N	25	Lots 125-126, North addition		
					812

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A POLYGON LOCATING THE PROPERTY				LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
	0	'	"	0	'	"	
	0	'	"	0	'	"	
	0	'	"	0	'	"	
	0	'	"	0	'	"	
	0	'	"	0	'	"	
	0	'	"	0	'	"	

LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
N30°	26'	32"		W84°	16'	57"	

812
=

Description of Site:

Present Condition of Site

Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent 863==		Check one <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered 863==		Check one if appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Moved 863==	
<input type="checkbox"/> Good 863==		<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated 863==		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site 863==	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fair 863==		<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins 863==			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed 863==			

The First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee was first organized in 1832 although construction on the building was not complete until 1838. This 1838 structure is, with some alterations, the same building which exists in good condition today. Timber used in the original structure was heart pine, pews were mahogany and the roof woodwork was mortised and pinned.

The building, as it presently exists, has an extended west end and a choir and organ loft has been added. In 1892 the two rows of sash windows in the north and south walls were replaced with "Gothic" pointed arched sash windows with diamond patterned muntins set into rectangular frames. On the interior these windows transcend both first floor and gallery. Also in 1892, the original mahogany box pews were removed and golden oak pews and pulpit were put in, only to have a modified type of box pew put back in 1932. At some time between 1892 and 1932 the steeple was removed to be replaced in 1932 with the original bell in place. Both the extension of the east wall and the addition of the choir loft were supervised by a local architect.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Present & Original Physical Appearance

-2-

The church is classical in design with a large prominent east portico carried on four nearly colossal Doric columns, a plain entablature and cornice and pediment with clapboarded tympanum. The steeple is a three part composition topped with a slender spire. There is a clock face on each of the four sides of the second section and a pointed-arched louvered vent on each side of the third section where there is also a small urn on each corner. The main entrance to the church consists of double wooden doors with an equilaterally arched transom above. A series of pilasters define panels on the back wall of the portico. In recent years as the level of the street has been lowered with successive paving and widening, the stair to the entrance has been changed and a wrought iron railing added.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Statement of Significance

-2-

Between 1827 and 1831, the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church assigned missionaries to north Florida. In 1823, the Reverend Joseph Styles, an active Presbyterian evangelist, arrived in Tallahassee with a committee from the Georgia Presbytery to minister to the growing Presbyterian community. On November 4, 1832, after a "protracted meeting", the community voted to organize a church composed of two Ruling Elders and sixteen members. The new church was placed under the temporary care of Hopewell Presbytery of Darien, Georgia, and on February 16, 1833 it was incorporated by act of the Florida Legislative Council.

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LE2008



STATE OF FLORIDA
Department of State
THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE 32304

RICHARD (DICK) STONE
SECRETARY OF STATE

ROBERT WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF ARCHIVES, HISTORY, AND
RECORDS MANAGEMENT


June 21, 1974

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Chief, Division of the
National Register
National Register of Historic Places
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Bill:

Enclosed please find several nominations to the National Register of Historic Places as listed on the attached list. These nominations are worthy of submission to the Register as approved by the Florida Review Committee for the National Register and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Sincerely,


Robert Williams
State Historic Preservation
Officer

RW:Nsr

Enclosures (15) nominations



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34-PR

JUN 28 1974

Mr. Robert Williams
Director
Division of Archives, History and
Records Management
Dept. of State
401 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

Dear Mr. Williams:

We are pleased to acknowledge the receipt of the following nominations to the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation on JUNE 27, 1974.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <u>First Presbyterian Church</u> | 12) Safford House |
| 2) Julee Cottage | 13) Leiman House |
| 3) Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Depot | 14) Sanibel Lighthouse and
Keeper's Quarters |
| 4) Newnansville Town Site | 15) Ybor City Historic District |
| 5) Quincy Library | |
| 6) Gesu Church | |
| 7) Halissee Hall | |
| 8) Wagner, William, Homestead | |
| 9) Ward, Paul T., House | |
| 10) Old School House | |
| 11) Tampa City Hall | |

If the properties are found to satisfy criteria and are accepted for inclusion on the National Register, you will receive a copy of Congressional notification with the request that you notify the owner of the action taken.

Sincerely yours,


William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register



RECEIVED

JUL 8 1974

Division of Archives
History & Records Management

1974 6 10

Division of Archives
History & Records Management

RECEIVED

JUL 9 1974

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
SECTION

RECEIVED

JUL 10 1974



RICHARD (DICK) STONE
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF FLORIDA
Department of State
THE CAPITOL
TALLAHASSEE 32304

ROBERT WILLIAMS, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF ARCHIVES, HISTORY, AND
RECORDS MANAGEMENT

June 19, 1974

P. C. Enniss, Pastor
First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee, Inc.
P. O. Box 566
Tallahassee, Florida

Ref: First Presbyterian Church

Dear Mr. Enniss:

It is my pleasure as Director of the Division of Archives, History and Records Management to notify you that the referenced property is being considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with procedures established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The National Register is the official schedule of the nation's cultural property that is worth saving. This action in no way affects your property rights.

The nomination is now being prepared and will be sent to the Florida Review Committee for the National Register of Historic Places, an independent body whose membership represents the disciplines of history, archaeology and architecture. If the nomination receives the approval of the Review Committee, I, functioning as the State Historic Preservation Officer, will be able to officially nominate the property to the National Register.

The nomination is then considered for inclusion by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in Washington. This procedure of evaluation ranges in duration from one to six months. We will notify you immediately when we receive word (if the property should be accepted).

I have enclosed a pamphlet explaining the National Register in some detail. If you have any additional questions please call me (904/488-1480) collect.

Sincerely,

Robert Williams
State Historic Preservation
Officer

RW:Nrc

Enclosure

RICHARD (DICK) STONE
SECRETARY OF STATE

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Bill Thompson
FROM: Rodney Little
SUBJECT: Certificates - National Register Nominations

Date: 9/18/74

Please prepare when you can certificates for the following sites:

✓ El Centro Espanol of West Tampa
Levick House
Ybor City Historic District
Stovall House
Leiman House
First Presbyterian Church
Quincy Library
El Jardin

Florida JUNIOR HISTORIAN



FJH 16208

"THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH"

by

Patty Ingraham
Kate Sullivan School — Mrs. Miller's Room

The First Presbyterian Church is the oldest church in Tallahassee. It is 134 years old. The church was built in 1835. It was made out of bricks covered with white stucco.

The church was the slave gallery for Tallahassee. There is an outside staircase that the slaves used for entering the gallery. The church was also a refuge for women and children.

The Educational building and the church are made out of white stucco. The first unit of the Educational building was built during World War II. The last unit was built in the year 1951. There have been many changes since the church was built. They have added a West Wing and a choir loft and an organ. Before these changes, the choir sat in the East

gallery.

The windows were double tiered before but are now the single gothic type. Some other changes have been made. The front porch has been re-tiled and the doors have been changed.

There was no music in the early church. The first musical instrument was a flute. Then came the Reed organ, Roosevelt pipe organ, and now they have an Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ.

The members of this church are proud of their church and very fortunate that it is such a beautiful and historical place. They are looking forward to being of any service in the capital area and the University area.

"THE CLOCK TOWER"

by

Mignon Deshaies
Kate Sullivan School — Mrs. Miller's Room

There is a very old clock tower in Tallahassee, Florida on South Macomb Street. It was built by a man many people think came from France.

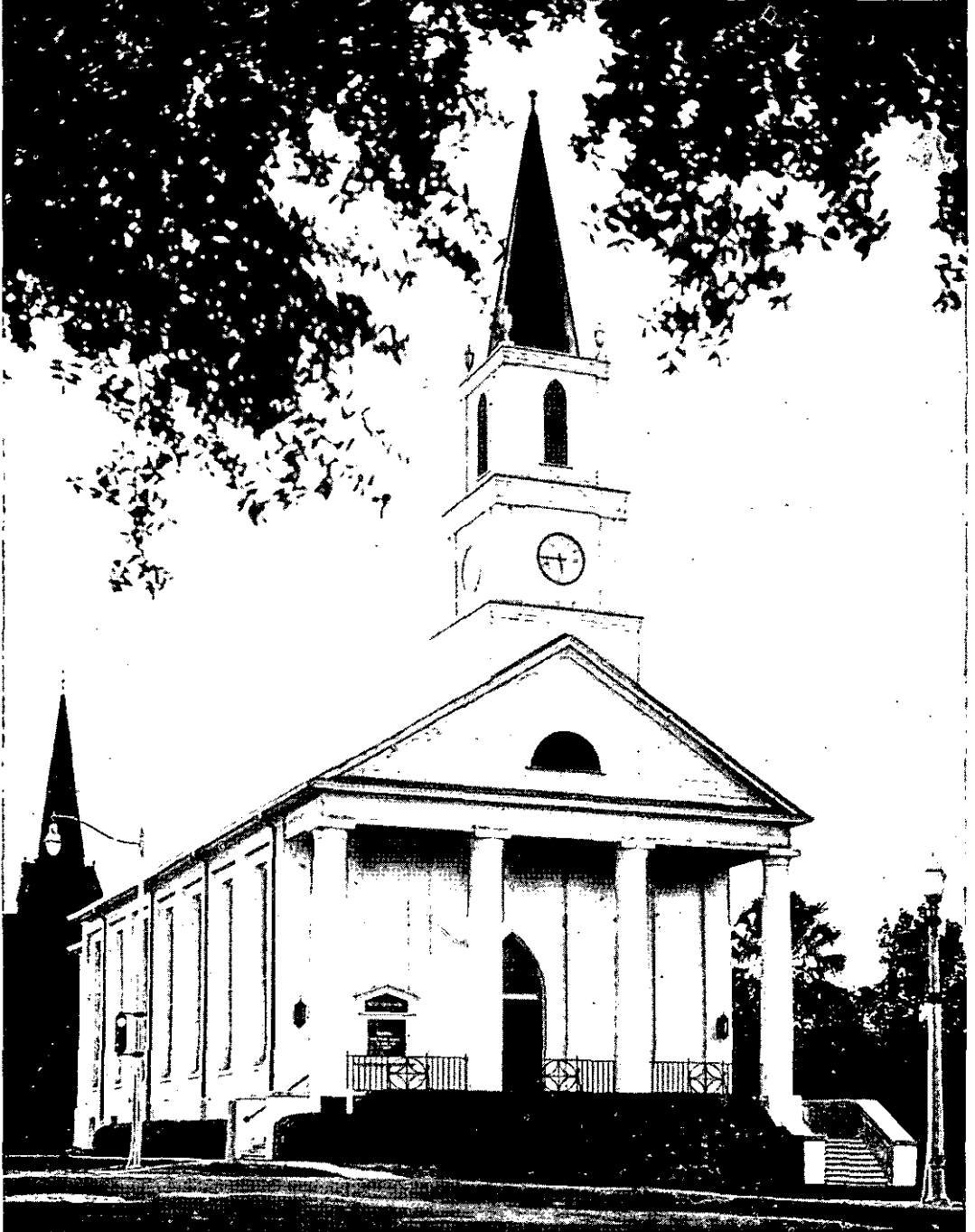
It was built in 1908 or 1910. The man's name is Calvin Phillips. Calvin Phillips built a couple of buildings in the Paris World's Fair in 1890. He built it out of red brick and there is a face on this clock tower like most clock towers have. On the clock face there are fleur de lis for numbers. It was built before the county courthouse and was the only public clock in town. It used to chime on the quarter hour. Now it doesn't chime because all the parts are taken out.

Calvin Phillips built two big houses on the property and a windmill too. Next to the clock tower there is a wooden building and on the building there is a hand carved chain. On the right side of the tower there is a barbeque pit. The property is now for sale and is in danger of being torn down.



Clock tower built by Calvin Phillips around 1908 or 1910.

An Historical Sketch
of the
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA



THE CHURCH BUILDING IN 1952

The First Presbyterian Church building has become a beloved historical landmark for the community, as well as a Church home for the members of the Church, for it is the oldest public building in Tallahassee.



In 1824, Governor Duval, by proclamation located the capital of the Territory of Florida at the site which has become the City of Tallahassee. When the Legislative Council convened in the fall of 1826, a Presbyterian Minister, Reverend Henry White, was appointed Chaplain and given permission to hold preaching services each Sabbath while the Assembly was in session in the partially constructed wing of the capitol building. The structure was torn down in 1839 and the present capitol was begun.



From 1827 through 1831 the records of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church show home missionaries assigned to this field, and a Sunday School organized. Late in 1832 the Reverend Joseph Stiles, Horace Pratt and Nathaniel Pratt, a committee from the Georgia Presbytery, held a "protracted meeting" and on November 4, 1832 organized a Presbyterian Church composed of two Ruling Elders and sixteen members. It was placed under the temporary care of Hopewell Presbytery. On February 16, 1833 the Church was incorporated by act of the Territorial Council. In June 1835 the congregation asked for bids to erect a brick building 68 ft. x 48 ft. The building was finished three years later and dedicated to the Lord on Sunday, May 13, 1838. Financing of the Church was by the sale of pews, the lowest bid being \$125.00, the total pew sales \$12,500. The final building costs totaled \$13,370.60. The pews of mahogany, with doors, were later replaced by the present pews.



The timber used in the building was of heart pine. Some idea of its quality can be gained from the table top in the entry of the Church. This top was the original entrance door sill, hollowed out by the passage of many feet through the years, and now squared up and preserved as a historical piece in the form of a table.

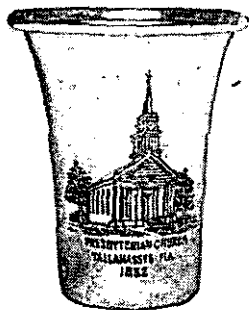


Pillars supporting the galleries were hand-hewed and show the adze marks if one looks closely. The north gallery was reserved by the trustees' deed for slaves who attended the services. They were admitted to membership.

rectangular, were changed to single Gothic type. The rounded arch back of the pulpit was later changed to conform to the window type. The front porch has been tiled, and doors renewed.



The pulpit furniture has been replaced, but the marble top was cut from the original pulpit marble, and is now in use in the chapel. There was no musical instrument in the early Church. A flute was the first innovation. This was followed by a reed organ, then a Roosevelt pipe organ, then a Skinner organ, and now an Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ.



HAND-ETCHED
STERLING SILVER
COMMUNION CUP

The Church held its Centennial celebration in 1932. At that time Miss Janie Clark, for many years Sunday School teacher and Church organist, presented the Church with 240 individual sterling silver communion cups. A hand etched engraving of the original Church building decorates each tiny cup. Many years earlier a little boy in her Sunday School class, Mazin Floyd, was stricken with a fatal malady. He gave his small savings to her with the request that "it go to God." She invested the fund, and through the years added to it until the fund was sufficient to buy the cups which are now regularly used at the Lord's Table.



During World War II, the first unit of the Educational Building was added. The final unit, just north of the Church, was completed in 1951. Both are of white stucco to match the Church.



In 1946 a Mission Chapel was erected on the Perry Highway and the Chapel has become the LaFayette Presbyterian Church. In 1954 a colony of members from this Church were sent out to form the Faith Presbyterian Church, now meeting on the Meridian Road. In 1963, with the cooperation of this Church, Faith Church, and Presbytery's Home Mission Committee the Covenant Presbyterian Church was organized. Their property is located on the Old Bainbridge Road at Forest Heights.



Members of the congregation are proud of the past of the Church and grateful that the Church building has become a historical landmark beloved by all; but they are looking forward to the increasing opportunities for service in a growing city, which has the added responsibility not only of ministering to the Capital City, but also the increasing student body of Florida State University.

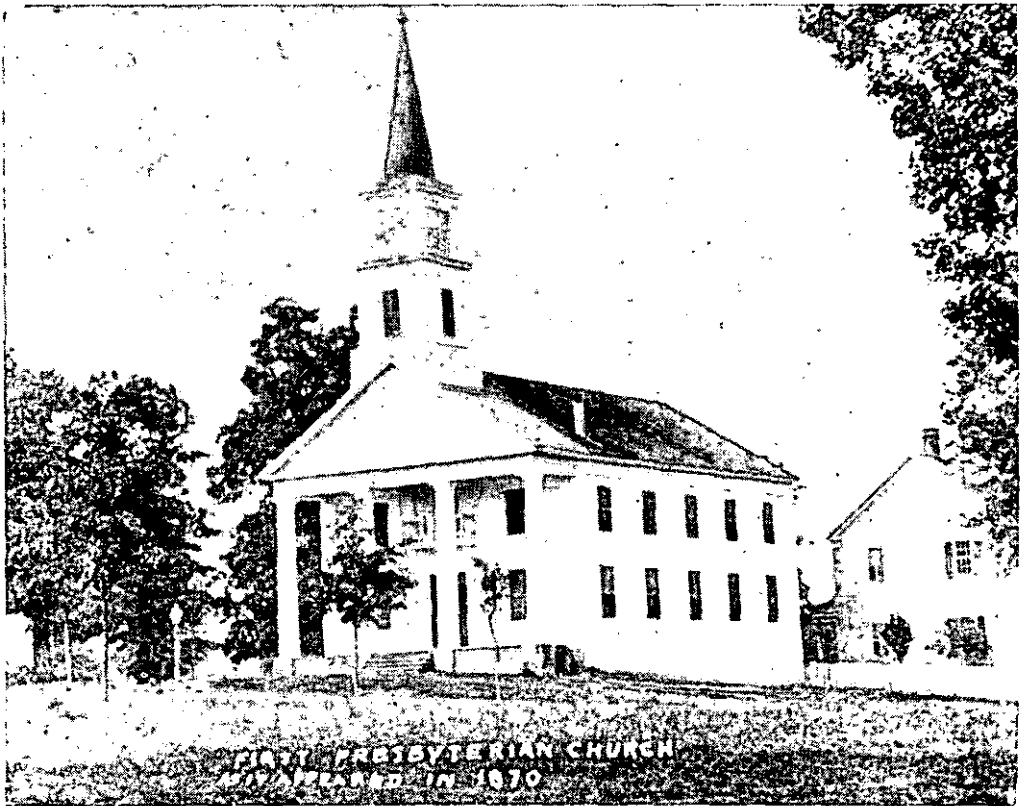
The roof woodwork was mortised and pinned, no nails being used in the original building. The steeple houses the original bell which was an "extra" in a set of chimes bought for a church in Baltimore. It was the gift of Elder David C. Wilson, prominent among the church founders. During the Civil War it was offered to the Confederacy to be melted down to make cannon, but the offer was not accepted.

+ + +

In the early days the Church was used when needed as a place of refuge for women and children when the men went out to guard the town against Indian uprisings.

+ + +

The building now is as originally constructed except that the west end has been extended and a choir and organ loft added. (The choir previously was located in the east gallery.) The windows, originally double-tiered and



THE ORIGINAL BUILDING AS IT APPEARED IN 1870

8LE 208

Master List
No. 36

SITE NAME: First Presbyterian Church

SITE LOCATION: 102 N. Adams Street

INVENTORY STATUS: National Register

RANKING: 1st

PROTOTYPE CATEGORY: 1/7

CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL: wood frame

CURRENT OWNER: First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee, Inc.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/OCCUPANTS: none

CURRENT USAGE: religious

ORIGINAL AND OTHER USAGES: same

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1838

DATE OF SIGNIFICANT ALTERATIONS: 1892, windows changed. Between 1892 and 1932, the steeple was removed to be replaced with the present one
CONTRACTOR AND/OR ARCHITECT: unknown in 1932.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

FOUNDATION AND FRAME:	<u>brick pier, brick</u>
EXTERIOR FABRIC:	<u>brick and frame</u>
NO. OF FLOORS:	<u>1 plus an interior gallery</u>
ROOF TYPE:	<u>ridge</u>
FENESTRATION:	<u>DHS, tall in pointed arched surrounds</u>
LOCATION/TYPE ENTRANCE:	<u>double doors, center east facade</u>
PORCHES:	<u>classical portico, east facade</u>
ORNAMENT:	<u>classical ornament subordinate to portico</u>
DEPENDENCIES:	<u>recent buildings linked for Sunday school</u>

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The earliest of the Georgian plan churches in Tallahassee well executed in the classical mode.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This structure has considerable historical significance. It is one of the oldest buildings in Tallahassee and is the only church in the city dating from the Territorial Period which is still standing. Religious activities began in Tallahassee with the arrival of the first settlers and officials; other protestant denominations had established churches and the Presbyterian Church had sent missionaries to the area prior to 1830. A Presbyterian congregation or church was organized in 1832 and subscriptions for a church building began to be solicited at once. Construction began in 1835 and was completed three years later. The lot upon which the church stands was one of four set aside by the Territorial Legislative Council as locations for churches. The altered 1838 church stands as a visible reminder of the beginnings of community life in Tallahassee.

Statement of Significance

The First Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee, Florida, is the oldest public building in the state capital and the only one standing on its original site that dates from Territorial days. As the original house of Presbyterian worship in the capital it has been a focal point of Florida history for 150 years, the ties between Presbyterianism and Florida government being symbolized by the appointment of Reverend Henry White, a Presbyterian minister, as Chaplain to the Legislative Council ~~XXXX~~ in 1826 when it first met in the newly-constructed Territorial Capitol building. With the exception of certain modifications the building remains as originally constructed, serving Florida's capital city as a distinctive architectural landmark as well as a link with the origins and growth of the state.

With the grant of a charter to Tallahassee in November 1824 after the city's designation by Governor DuVal as the territorial capital, settlers and officials ~~along with~~ began flocking to the wilderness region of hills, ~~alakes~~ and woods south of the Georgia border. The servicing of the ^{religious} needs of the new inhabitants was an early concern of the various established denominations. The Methodists and Episcopalians were the first and second denominations respectively to establish churches, in 1827 and 1829. Between 1827 and 1831 the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church assigned missionaries to north Florida. In 1823 the Rev. Joseph Styles, an active Presbyterian evangelist, arrived in Tallahassee with a committee from the Georgia Presbytery to minister to the growing Presbyterian community. On November 4, 1832, after a "protracted meeting"

-2-

the community voted to organize a Presbyterian Church composed of two Ruling Elders and sixteen members. The new church was placed under the temporary care of Hopewell Presbytery of Darien, Georgia, and on February 16, 1833 it was incorporated by act of the Florida Legislative Council. The Act of Incorporation states that "John G. Gamble, James S. Linn, Elisha B. Perkins, David W. Wilson, George W. Ward and their successors shall be and are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate to be known by the name and style of the Presbyterian Church of Tallahassee. . . ." The incorporators, all Ruling Elders, were among the most prominent citizens of the capital, attesting to its role within the community which by ¹⁹⁴³ then numbered 1,600 persons, ~~by 1843.~~

The original congregation has worshipped out of doors at a vacant lot on the corner of Bronough and McCarthy (Now Park Avenue) Streets two blocks of ^{due west} the present site.

Begin → Subscriptions for a permanent church building were begun almost immediately, but not until June, 1835, were bids asked for the construction of such a building, the lot chosen being one of four designated by the Legislative Council along McCarthy Street for church use. The building, of brick 68 ft. by 48 ft. was completed in three years, all bricks being made in a kiln belonging to Ruling Elder R.A. Shine. The total cost was \$13,370.60, of which the building, pews and gallery cost \$10,253.60, the porch and steeple \$1600, the lots, blinds, pulpit lamps and accessories \$1517. Financing was by the sale of pews, 40 of 44 being sold for total income of \$12,500.00. On May 13, 1838, First Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee was dedicated to the Lord's work. The Floridian for May 5 noted that "worshippers will by divine permission worship on Sunday the 13th inst. On this day the pews will be free and citizens invited to attend."

The original deed of incorporation had specified that "the North Gallery shall be set apart and reserved for the use of persons of colour in time of publick worship". Slaves accompanied their masters to church and although they sat apart they were permitted to become members. In 1843 the visit of missionary Rev. N. Hoyt to Tallahassee resulted in the addition of 23 white and 17 coloured members to the congregation. ~~Very~~
~~The fire destroyed the~~
~~church building~~ Spared as if by miraculous intervention from the fire of 1843 which ravaged the central business district, the church continued to grow in numbers up to the Civil War. It numbered among its membership many of the prominent citizens of Tallahassee. The church building was in frequent use in the late 1840's and 1850's as a "city hall" where political speeches and orations were given on national holidays. ~~The music provided by~~
~~its choir was~~ sufficient to inspire a letter to the Florida Sentinel from an anonymous member of the Territorial Legisla-

-4-

praising
ture ~~xxxxxx~~ its "highly chaste, beautiful and agreeable"
concert of June 23, 1844. That the church was a center of
social and artistic activities in Florida's capital can be
attested to by numerous other references in the newspapers
of the day. Much of Tallahassee's finest entertaining was
in the homes of prominent families among the congregation
such as the Gambles, Wilsons, Perkinses, Wards and Gambles.
One visitor to the home of Elder John Gamble wrote ^{in 1845} that
"there is more intelligence and intellect to be found here
than among any similar population group in any new state"

A similar commitment marked the attitude of Tallahas-
see Presbyterians toward their old church. Elder David C.
Wilson, a local merchant whose drygoods store was a city
landmark until 1972, traveled regularly to Baltimore to do
the buying for his store. He gave the building its first
organ- music having ~~been~~ previously consisted of the choir
and
accompanied by a flute- the original ^{silver} communion cups, which
were in use until the 1932 Centennial celebration. Elder
Wilson also arranged for a silversmith to melt down the silver
money collected from children in the Sunday School, and make
this into a communion plate. The church bell was also a gift
from him, having been a spare one in a Baltimore church. Dur-
ing the War Between the States the congregation offered the
bell to the Confederate Government to be made into cannon
balls. The offer was refused, and the bell still hangs in
the church belfry.

The War ^{brought} ~~xxxxxx~~ considerable hardship to Tallahassee's
oldest church. ~~xxxxxx~~ The membership declined, negro slaves no longer
~~xxxxxx~~ sat in the north balcony. The pastorate of John DuBose (1859-
1871) which spanned these troubled times, was notable for an
incident in June, 1865, shortly after the surrender of the
Confederacy. The clergy of Tallahassee and other Southern
capitals had been ordered to pray for the President of the
United States, while the President of the Confederacy "must

not be prayed for". Reverend Du Bose stood before the congregation at the close of morning worship and prayed "Father of mercies, we most earnestly beseech Thee to bless and comfort Thy servant Jefferson Davis. . . ." His booming voice filled the church. ~~After~~ He paused for a moment and then continued; "Take under Thy care and guidance also the President of the United States of America, open his eyes that he may see aright. . . ."

~~The church~~ became once again a place of refuge during the turbulent election year of 1876, as Rutherford B. Hayes and Samuel Tilden contested for the Presidency. Weapons and ammunition were stored in the basement of the building ~~just prior~~ to Election Day, and on Election night large numbers of the native white population ~~stood guard~~ in anticipation of election riots by ~~angry supporters of Tilden.~~ Fortunately the riots did not materialize.

In terms of its historical relationship to the community ~~the~~ the greatest crisis for First Presbyterian Church came in 1932, the centennial year of organization of the congregation. The first remodeling of the building was done in 1891, when the present choir loft was added, the windows changed from ~~double-tiered rectangular~~ to Gothic style, and the original mahogany box pews replaced by ~~the~~ ^{open} oak pews. A Roosevelt pipe organ was installed at that time and the original reed organ given to a country chapel on Bannerman Road, 19 miles from Tallahassee. The growth of the congregation from a low of 45 members (1872) to over 300 produced ^{the} a crisis. Many members felt that the old building should be torn down and a new ^{larger} church erected on the same lot but facing ^{south on} Park Avenue (i.e. at right angles to the original). Mr. J.G. Kellum, Business Manager of the then-Florida State College for Women, whose widow, at the age of 86, is still a regular communicant, led a campaign to preserve the old building on its site. Kellum's view carried the day, and First

Church was lengthened, renovated, and restored, at a cost of \$35,000.00, without changing the architectural lines other than the extension of the western ~~wall~~ ^{for the} choir loft and organ.

The Roosevelt organ was replaced by a Skinner. During the renovations it was discovered that there was not a single nail in the roof; the foundation walls are three feet thick, tapering to eighteen inches at the top. The renovations were completed in time for the Centennial Celebrations of November 4-6, 1932. At that time Miss Janie Clark, ~~for the~~ ^a Sunday School teacher and Church organist, gave the Church 240 sterling silver communion cups. They had been bought from money ~~invested~~ entrusted to her many years earlier by Mazin Floyd, a little boy in her class who ~~had contracted a fatal illness (leukemia?), and had given her his small savings with the request that "it go to God".~~ ^{had contracted a fatal illness (leukemia?), and had given her his small savings with the request that "it go to God".} Miss Clark had invested the money and added to it over the years until it was sufficient to buy "God's gift to the Church".

~~As the City of Tallahassee prepares to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of its founding as Florida's Territorial capital in 1824, the First Presbyterian Church stands on its original site as a visible reminder of the beginnings of the Sunshine State.~~

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✓ ~~See~~ ^{addition} Archives of the Presbyterian Church, Montreat, N.C.

✓ ^{z. file} "City's Oldest Church", Tallahassee Democrat, March 27, 1966

^{select} ~~Occasional references in early Florida newspapers, such as Floridian (Tallahassee), 1831-1848, Florida Sentinel (Tallahassee) 1841-1861, Floridian and Journal (Tallahassee), 1849-1861.~~

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Groene p. 53

"dead also was the beloved Rev. Philo Phelps
pastor of the Presbyterian Church" [yellow fever]

p. 116, n. 54 the parade ground of the
Tallah. militia [was between deMilly's and
the Presbyterian Church] -

Floridian Journal, Dec. 4, 1852

PP. 121-125

The third denomination established in
Tallah. was the Presbyt. Church.

Owes its early successful op. to Joseph
Stiles, an active Presbyterian evan-
gelist who operated in the Tall. area
1832-1835.

Incorporated Feb. 16, 1833, by Legislative
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Acts, 1833, p.

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